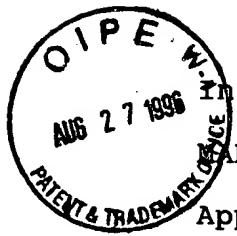


35.C11250

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN re Application of:)
MANABU KATO)
Application No.: 08/607,169)
Filed: February 26, 1996)
For: SCANNING OPTICAL)
APPARATUS : August 26, 1996

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
AUG 27 1996
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 4,695,132
U.S. Patent 5,111,219
Japan 61-48684
Japan 63-157122
Japan 4-50908
Japan 4-104213
Japan 8-76011

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The foregoing Japanese documents were discussed in the specification at pages 3 to 5, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there.

U.S. Patent 4,695,132 is believed to be an English language counterpart to Japan 61-48684, and U.S. Patent 5,111,219 is believed to be an English language counterpart to Japan 4-50908. English language counterparts of Japan

63-157122 and Japan 4-104213 are not known, but an English language abstract for each has been located and is enclosed.

Japan 8-76011 corresponds to Japanese application No. 6-239386 which was cited at page 5, line 27 of the specification. An English language abstract for this Japanese patent is also enclosed.

Applicant also respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the following co-pending applications which have been assigned in common with the present application:

Application No. 08/418,438 filed April 7, 1995

Application No. 08/044,070 filed April 8, 1993

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of these co-pending applications have not been enclosed, nor have they been listed on Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully directed to Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these applications.

The Examiner is urged to study these applications in their entirety to determine their relevance to the claimed invention.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this

information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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